This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

ARTES SCIENTIA VERITAS
LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

1972 [**DRYDEN (John)**] THE MOUSE-GROWN A RAT; or, The Story of the City and Country Mouse. Newly Transpos'd. In a Discourse betwixt BAYS, JOHNSON, and SMITH. *E. Mallet*, 1702. Small 4to, *sewn*, 10s 6d

1973 ——— Another Copy. 1702. Small 4to, *sewn*, *title-page stained*, 7s 6d

828
M932
1702

The Mouſe grown a Rat:

OR THE

STORY

OF THE

City and Country *Mouſe*

NEWLY TRANSPOS'D.

IN A

DISCOURSE

BETWIXT

BAYS, JOHNSON, and *SMITH.*

The Fifth Edition.

LONDON,
Printed, and ſold by *E. Mallet* next the Kings-Arms Tavern near *Fleet-bridg.* 1702.

Hibbert
Howes
11-14-25
1244 2

The Mouſe grown a Rat; or a Diſcourſe betwixt Bays, Johnſon, *and* Smith.

JOHNSON. Mr. *Bays*, I eſteem it a great piece of Condeſcenſion in you, that you will admit us into your Company, after you have acquired ſuch vaſt Riches, and procured ſuch weighty Honours, and are ſet at ſuch a vaſt Diſtance from Men of our Quality.

Smith. Indeed, Mr. *Bays*, I have the ſame Apprehenſions; methinks you are grown like a lofty Oak overtopping the Underwood, and if you deign to caſt a Look downwards on us poor Shrubs, we muſt impute it more to your own good Nature than our Deſerts; we cannot expect from the high Pinnacle on which you are perch'd, you ſhould know us poor Mortals, by ſuch a Diſtance leſſened almoſt out of Sight.

Bays. Know you, quotha; I vow Gentlemen, I hardly know my ſelf; my mighty Bulk does even elevate and ſurprize, and all that, my own tranſcendent Fancy. But Gentlemen, I find you have no great Breeding, when you forget my Titles, and call me by the Name of *Bays*, which I went by 14 Years ago; howe-

ver you may call me what you pleaſe, at this Time I condeſcend to be familiar; I will lay my Grandeur aſide, and diſcourſe as formerly for an Hour or two.

Johnſon. We thank you Mr. *Bays*; but you know my Temper, I never paid Reſpect to Titles or Riches, but always eſteemed the Man for his own perſonal Merit, and the good Services he did his Country.

Smith. Pray Mr. *Bays*, let us know from your own Mouth, the Steps you took to mount into the Saddle of Preferment; for 'tis a Riddle to the thinking part of Mankind, how a Perſon of ſo little Merit as your ſelf, ſhould arrive to ſuch vaſt Profits and Honours.

Bays. I tell you, Sir, as ſoon as ever the Prince of *Orange* got to *St. James's*, I came upon him ſwop with Abundance of Confidence my natural Talent, and quickly gave him to underſtand, that I was an honourable Squire.

Johnſon. This brings into my mind a Tetraſtick of *Alexander Nequams*, *Fol.* 55927. of his Works, *Vol.* 50.

Squiri ſquirentur, quocunq; ſub Axe videntur.
Knavi knavantur, quocunq; ſub Axe vagantur.
Ternio Squirorum Bully ſany, Rock Hellibrando.
Huffant & ſwaggerant cum Verbis, Enſe Botello.

But Mr. *Bays*, is Confidence a due Qualification for an Employment?

Bays. I vow the fineſt Thing in the whole World; but you know I was eſteemed a Man of great Wit, as big as an Elephant, upon the Account of my fine Story of the City and Country Mouſe.

Johnſon. If you are not foully belied, Mr. *Bays*, that Story was written by *Mat. Pr——r*, and you had only

ly the fathering of it. Nor was there ſo much Wit in it as you pretend to.

Bays. Not Wit, thou art a Fool: Tell me any thing in the Univerſe finer than theſe Lines.

A Milkwhite Mouſe, *Immortal and Unchang'd,*
Fed on ſoft Cheeſe, and o'er the Dairy rang'd;
Without unſpotted, innocent within;
She fear'd no Danger, for ſhe knew no Gin.

Come, Mr. *Johnſon*, you are a Poet; imitate them, imitate them preſently, off hand, off hand, without Heſitation.

Johnſon. I'le try.

A Milkwhite Rogue, *Immortal and Unhang'd,*
By Fate and Parliaments ſeverely bang'd;
Without a Saint, a Devil was within;
He fear'd all Danger, for he knew all Sin.

Bays. That's pretty well done, but not very civilly expreſt, conſidering my Quality.

Smith. Mr. *Bays*, you promiſed to lay Grandeur aſide, and diſcourſe freely without Exception; but pray Mr. *Bays*, how came it to paſs, ſince you roſe by the favour of the Muſes, that you did not prefer your Brethren of the Quill? I expected my ſelf to be at leaſt Scavenger to *Parnaſſus*, or one of the Grooms of the Chamber to *Apollo*.

Bays. Did I not ſerve my Brethren? Was I not the Man that abdicated *Dryden*, and crowned *Shadwel* with the Laurel? Did not I make my *Iriſh* Brother a Commiſſioner in one of the Publick Funds, and give him a Cuſtomers

Cuſtomers Place in the Country into the Bargain, only for writing a Ballad to the Laud and Praiſe of my Right Honourable Self?

Smith. This is your Crime Mr. *Bays*, to beſtow that upon undeſerving Sycophants, which is the Birthright of ſuch as have wrote and fought in the Service of their Country.

Bays. Thou art ſtill I find in the wrong Box, harping upon that dull unſonorous String of Merit: I tell thee Man, *Merit* is a Popiſh Doctrine, and ought to be baniſh'd the Court of a Proteſtant Prince; Doſt thou think I would ſuffer ſuch antiquated Coxcombs as Men of Merit and Virtue to ſcandalize the Court of my Prince, when it was in my power to keep 'em out? Doſt thou think that I would prefer theſe in the Cuſtoms, when I and Sir *Stephen* and the reſt of us had Footmen enough of our own to put in ſuch Places? But to proceed, Did not I, when *Tom. Shadwel* died, ſplit the Office of Laureat, and divide it betwixt *Na. T*——, and *Tom. R*——?

Johnſon. This I think, Mr. *Bays*, was the firſt Treaty of Partition you ever entred into; and I can aſſure you, upon theſe Terms I ſhould have quitted my Pretenſions to the Laurel, rather than to have the Monarchy of *Parnaſſus* diſmember'd. I ſuppoſe Mr. *Bays*, 'twas you adviſed the ſplitting of the Office in the Tower, and ſo by degrees you grew Maſter of the Partition Art, to ſuch perfection, that at laſt you took upon you to adviſe the Partition of other peoples Countries.

Bays. Not a Word of that Pudding, but had the Parliament concurred with that bold Stroke, it had been a Glorious Enterprize.

Johnſon. They ſaid it was a thing unjuſt in its own Nature, and had they ſaid otherwiſe it would have been

ſo

ſo notwithſtanding. But had they concur'd with the Project, I ſuppoſe your next Partition Job would have been the Partition of *England*; and having a Parliament for your turn, as you call it, it might have been ratified all Laws, Statutes and Acts of Settlement to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Bays. No; to tell you the truth, my Project upon *England* was quite defeated before that time; and to lead you into a diſcovery of what few or none yet underſtand, 'twas I contriv'd the Notion of a Conqueſt, tho midwiv'd into the World *in verbo Sacerdotis*: This Notion would have ſtood firm, if back'd with the forcible Argument of a Standing Army; but in both theſe great Points we miſcarried, in which, if we had ſucceeded I ſhould have told you a piece of my Mind.

Johnſon. We were beholden to my Name-ſake for that piece of Service; he knock'd your Conquering Biſhop quite out of the Saddle, laid him groveling on the Ground, and at once expos'd his Folly and inveterate Malice againſt our Conſtitution.

Bays. I wiſh we had made your Name-ſake Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury* upon the Revolution, that he might have imploy'd his Pen in making Prayers for Faſt and Thankſgiving Days, whenever the Court had a mind to be godly, and not have continued to plague every body with his old Stories of what our Fore-fathers were and did: He's the ſtrangeſt Man in the Univerſe; a body can't break down a Pole or ſo of the Fence of our Laws, to make way to fatten our ſelves in the Paſture of Arbitrary Power, but he comes upon one ſwop with his Quarter-ſtaff of *Magna Charta*, and lets fly all his Arrows of Liberty and Property in ones Chops; ſo that a Man can't be a little familiar or ſo with his Miſtreſs

Conſti-

Conſtitution, but preſently forſooth he is ready to indite one for a Rape: He pretends his Miſtriſs (an old weather-beaten Hag) is as handſom now as ſhe was a thouſand years ago, tho ſhe ſtinks worſe than Gunpowder, which thing I hate above all in the Univerſe, except Bullets.

Johnſon. Mr. *Bays*, take it from me, had you made my Name-ſake Arch-biſhop of *Canterbury*, and allow'd him to ſell Biſhopricks, as you ſold Places, he would have been the ſame Man: He's a mere *Inamorato*, and his Miſtriſs Conſtitution has a very faithful Lover of him, for whom he has ſuffer'd more than 50 that ride in their Coaches and ſix. I heard a Gentleman ſay in a publick Company ſome weeks ago, that this very Man had done more towards the Revolution than the Prince of *Orange*, and the Fourteen Thouſand Five Hundred Men that came over with him.

Bays. How can that be?

Johnſon. If he had not with ſeveral others oppos'd the Tyranny of the late Reigns with the hazard of Life and Limb, there would have been no room for the Revolution: If the Tree of Arbitrary Power had not been continually ſhaken, it would have taken ſuch faſt Root, that it would have been immovable: If he had not ſet K. *James*'s Army againſt him, they would have devour'd the 14000 men for a Breakfaſt.

Smith. I fancy, Mr. *Bays*, in conſideration of theſe his great and eminent Services, you took no notice of him upon the Revolution, as indeed you did not of all men of his Character; and yet at the ſame time, all the Riches and Honours you have acquir'd ſprang from their good Services.

Bays.

Bays. Look ye, Gentlemen, you are not skill'd in Politicks, our Management is like the Peace of God, it paſſeth all Underſtanding; 'Tis no true Policy to reward Men of Merit: Am I bound to look upon the Stairs by which I aſcend to the Garret of Honour? Did you ever dream that *Jacob* took his Ladder up into Heaven with him? No; the Reward of virtuous Actions is to have done them; and I would adviſe theſe men to ſtay till the Day of Judgment for a Reward. I cock up my Chin, look big, ſtrut and hector whom I pleaſe; and if I look upon you meritorious Mortals, I think it is enough; but as for your Name-ſake, Mr. *Johnſon*, I reckon we have done well: Has he not a good Penſion, a ſufficient Reward for his Services?

Johnſon. But how long was it before he had any thing? It was ſeveral Years e'er he was taken notice of, when worthleſs Sycophants, and men of ſlaviſh Principles, fed on the Fat of the Land.

Smith. And before he had any thing, he was attempted to be *De-Witted:* Becauſe your Conquering Sparks could not knock his Arguments on head, they were reſolv'd to beat out his Brains, that they might produce no more Reaſons in defence of the Libertys of our Country. But, Mr. *Bays*, do you really think the ſmall Penſion that Gentleman has is a ſufficient Recompence for his Sufferings, and a Reward ſutable to the Merit of the moſt valuable Man of his Age?

Bays. Yes indeed, I think it ſufficient: I muſt acknowledg it might have been better placed, had it been ſooner; but we were then in a hurry, making our own Fortunes, and had not time to reward Men of his Character: And to tell you the truth of the buſineſs, I was always againſt it; for if he, or Men of his Kidney, came

into Favour, I, and Men of my Kidney, were certain to be in Diſgrace; for there is as much difference betwixt us and them, as there is betwixt Light and Darkneſs.

Johnſon. Indeed I have heard that the ſmall Pittance that Gentleman got was by the Induſtry of Mr. Secretary *Trumbul*, which I then ſaid was an ill Omen of his *Exit* from his Office; for I think him the only Secretary of State ſince the Revolution, that recommended a Sufferer to Royal Favour. We never expected a thing of that nature from my Ld *N*——, and Secretary *Trenchard* baſely betray'd his Party, and ſold 'em, as did your Right Honourable Self; and for the reſt of 'em, I am altogether unacquainted with their Virtues.

Smith. You ſay, Mr. *Bays*, that Mr. *Johnſon's* Penſion is a ſufficient Reward for his Services: Pray, Sir, who will you make the Standard of Merit? Will you make Mrs. *Villers*, or the Foreigners in the *Iriſh* Grants? or will you make your ſelf the Standard? If your ſelf, according to the rule of proportion betwixt you and Mr. *Johnſon*, you ought not at this time to have been advanced above the King's Livery: If the other, pray reckon Services, and ſee which way the Ballance enclines.

Bays. Look ye, Gentlemen, the King has the liberty of preferring whom he pleaſes; and if he will not advance ſuch Men as you ſpeak of, what's that to you or any body elſe?

Johnſon. Mr. *Bays*, you muſt not make the King the Packhorſe to bear the Load of your Iniquity; we have a greater Veneration for his Majeſty, and are better aſſured of his Character than that comes to. If our King were a *Jew*, a *Turk*, an Infidel, Men ſo valuable and ſerviceable to their Country would not paſs without a juſt Recompence: The Fault lies at your door who are

about

about him, who will not ſuffer the meritorious Actions of his beſt and braveſt Subjects to come to his knowledg; but you keep him a Stranger both to their Perſons and Merits.

Smith. Sir, if you had been juſt to Men of Merit, and to that Prince that has rais'd you to this Fortune and Grandeur, you would have made him acquainted with the Sufferings of ſuch Men as were in his Intereſt, and who were the very occaſion of his being King of *England.* Suppoſe his Majeſty had been adviſ'd, upon his coming to the Throne, to have eſtabliſhed ſome of the chief Patriots and Sufferers of this Kingdom, to have examined into the Merit of Men before they were advanc'd to Offices, and that no Man ſhould have Preferment that had not before ſerv'd his Country: Would not this have given him the juſt Title of a grateful Prince, and have ſecur'd his Government againſt the Attempts of his Enemies, when it was under the Management of his beſt Friends?

Johnſon. What Mr. *Smith* ſays is very true: Had our Government been in the hands of ſuch Men, his Majeſty had not been betrayed in his Deſign upon *Dunkirk*, nor had *Dixmude* been ſo treacherouſly loſt; but how the Devil that Fellow who ſurrender'd it came to die for it, when others have been prefer'd, I can't tell. Had theſe Men been in the Miniſtry, *Talmaſh*, with many other brave *Engliſh* men, had never been ſacrific'd thro notorious Treachery; *Pointi* had not eſcap'd, nor the *Thoulon* Squadron got into *Breſt.*

Bays. I hear you with patience; proceed.

Johnſon. It's a Riddle to me, Mr. *Bays*, how the *French* King, who is an abominable Tyrant, ſhould be ſo faithfully ſerv'd, and that K. *William*, whoſe Govern-

ment is founded upon the moſt juſt and equitable Laws in the World, ſhould be betray'd in almoſt all the Deſigns he ever had for the good of our Realm. This certainly proceeds from what we were before ſpeaking of; and we muſt expect ſuch Events for the future, if ſuch a Management continues.

Smith. Mr. *Bays*, can you give me an Inſtance in one ſingle Ship, during the War, belonging to the *French* King, that was given up by its Commander, without a Blow? Have we not got what Ships we have taken from them by downright fighting? And how many have we had delivered up without ſtriking a ſtroke? Have they not run away by whole Fleets and Squadrons; and then have been acquitted by their own Gang, a Method of Trial you like very well?

Bays. Gentlemen, you are now got out of my Element, talk of any thing but Fighting, and I'll hearken to you. I am ſure I never betrayed the King in Battel; and as to what you ſay concerning the Preferment of Men of Merit, I muſt tell you, Gentlemen, you do not underſtand the Buſineſs of a Courtier, your fooliſh nice Honour and Conſcience is a bar to your Knowledg in that point. Now we Courtiers, when we are got into an Office, the firſt thing we do is to lay down the Methods by which we ſhall make our Fortunes; and for you to talk of rewarding Men in ones own prejudice is mere Nonſenſe. You remember, Mr. *Smith*, you ſpake to me for a Place in the Cuſtoms of 200 *l. per Annum*; you might as well have ask'd me to have given you 600 *l.* out of my Pocket, 'twas the very ſame thing: For Places at that time ſold at 3 years Purchaſe, and I had Cuſtomers enow for 'em.

Smith.

Smith. I find, Mr. *Bays*, the Piety of Courts and Camps is much alike; but if you deſign'd to ſerve Men of Merit after this manner, you would have done very honeſtly to have put forth a Proclamation, declaring, Whereas there were many Gentlemen in this our Kingdom of *England*, who had in the late Reigns ſuffered Impriſonments, pecuniary Fines, and other Puniſhments, for aſſerting the Liberties of *England*, and for oppoſing Popery and Arbitrary Government; ſo that the ſaid Perſons having been ruined in their Fortunes, and themſelves and Families being in a neceſſitous Condition, do expect from this Government Rewards ſutable to their great and eminent Services: Be it therefore declared by and with the Advice of Mr. *Bays*, and others the Evil Counſellors of this Kingdom, That henceforth the Perſons aforeſaid do give no further Attendance at Court, we being reſolv'd never to admit them into Places of Profit or Truſt under this Government. This Declaration, Mr. *Bays*, would have been very honeſt; for hereby they had known their Doom at once, and not have ſpent 13 or 14 years in a fruitleſs Attendance upon an ungrateful Court.

Bays. Why all this upon me, have not others done the like? Did not your Presbyterian Saints do the ſame thing? Did one of 'em all reward a Man of their own Party? Your Truſtees for the *I*—— Forfeitures, who are moſt of 'em Whigs, did they carry one ſuch Perſon to *Ireland* with them? Have they not made a Monopoly of that Buſineſs, and ſhared the Spoil amongſt themſelves and their Creatures?

Johnſon. 'Tis true enough, Sir; but is this leſs a Crime, becauſe all men are guilty of it? Had we Men of Probity and Honeſty in eminent Poſts and Offices, the Caſe

Caſe would be otherwiſe; nor ſhould we have ſpent ſo many Millions in a War, and run the Nation ſo much in debt, to ſo very little purpoſe, that we find the Nation in a worſe Condition now than before the War.

Bays. That's nothing to me; I am ſure I have deſerved what I have got. How had your Mony been recoined, had it not been for my Project of a Paper Credit?

Johnſon. The Paper Credit, Mr. *Bays*, was a Child of another body's getting: 'Twas *Robbin Murray*'s Invention. 'Tis true, you brought it into the Houſe, and ſo it paſs'd for your own, when God knows you did not underſtand the Strength of that Project your ſelf; for had the Inventor been adviſ'd in the Management, inſtead of ſo many hundred Thouſand of Pounds loſs to the Nation in the circulating of thoſe Bills, they had been better than *Specie*. However, you got your Ends by 'em, you now ride in your Coach and ſix, and poor *Murray* is a Priſoner in the Fleet for a ſmall Debt.

Smith. Did you give *Murray* nothing for helping you to that famous Project? 'Twas the top of all your Performances.

Bays. Give him, quotha! not one Penny, I vow. 'Tis not common Prudence to reward ſuch Men; Mony makes 'em lazy: Being in want, and a Priſoner, will ſharpen his Fancy, and put an Edg upon his Contrivance. I hope to have as great Offers from him this Seſſions, which he would never have thought of, had his Fancy been dull'd by Plenty of Mony: Such Men are bound to work for us. 'Twas not his Invention, nor *Mordecai Abbot*'s putting of it into Form, 'twas my offering of it to the Houſe with a good Aſſurance did the

the buſineſs; and you know at that time I had a great Intereſt in the Houſe of Commons; I could be guilty of any Crime, and then get a Vote paſs'd in my favour.

Smith. I think, Mr. *Bays*, your Intereſt in that Houſe did not hold long, you were forc'd at laſt to get your ſelf remov'd: They began to run upon you at ſuch a rate, that they e'en made you cry in the Houſe, the firſt ſign ever you gave of Grace.

Bays. Grace! no, I cried for mere Madneſs; for would it not vex one to be run upon at that rate, who but a Seſſions or two before ſwayed the whole Houſe? They were juſt like a Company of Birds upon a poor Owl: They teez'd me and vex'd me, and my Mouſeſhip had not a Hole to creep into to ſecure me from the Stings of their Tongues. I remember one day in the heat of my political Fury, I took an occaſion to ſwear in the Houſe, and *Ned H.* immediately took me up for it, and preſently they begun to bawl about Precedents, and ſending me a Tower Rat into my Lord *Lucas*'s Trap. 'Twas high time, I think, to get my ſelf remov'd; had I ſtaid there, I had been worried to Death among 'em.

Smith. But that did not do; they reach'd you for all that: The Commons of *England* have a powerful long Arm.

Bays. Reach me, quotha! But to what purpoſe? I defy 'em all now; I amn't to be tried by a parcel of Fellows that ſend Men to the Pillory, and preſent Ballads and Common-Shoars. I could not chuſe but laugh at the different Opinion of the two Houſes: One Houſe made me a Demi-God, whilſt the other Houſe made a mere Devil of me; and this difference I can make at any time, whenever I or my Reputation are in danger. Alack a day, we were no more for a War the laſt Seſſi-

ons

ons, than we ſhould have been were we to have fought the Battel our ſelves, which you know we car'd for at no rate: However 'twas a good Amuſement to incenſe the Common unthinking People againſt the Parliament; for you find the Mob ſways the Ballance to which ſide ever they come: but did they know how they have all along been cullied by us, and have been wrought upon by us to clamour againſt whomſoever we pleaſe, only to ſecure us from being detected and puniſhed for embezeling the Nation's Money, they would ſerve us as the *Dutch* did the Great *De Wit*, or as they did the *Engliſh* at *Amboyna*.

Smith. Truly, Sir, you gain'd a wonderful Point, when you got the Mob to your ſide; but of all things, I wonder how you got ſuch a Party in the City, eſpecially among that ſort of People who had formerly been Haters of Monarchy, and the worſt Enemies to the Court of any Men in *England*. Pray, Mr. *Bays*, unfold this Riddle to us; for we think it a mighty turn of Politicks.

Bays. Gentlemen, to inſtruct you in the deep Myſteries of our Management, I'll acquaint you with this Trick of State: Do but conſider, that Intereſt governs the World, that it is the God to whom all the Mortals inhabiting the Terreſtrial Globe pay Obedience; and then you'l find what a powerful Inſtrument it is in the hand of one that knows how to make uſe of it. Intereſt will make men ſell their Country, betray their Poſterity, murder the Reputation of the beſt Men in *England*, and ſanctify the Villanies of the greateſt Offenders. We quickly found the blind ſide of the City Saints, and that they worſhip'd Intereſt as much as any men; hereupon we contriv'd to link them to our ſelves by the in-

indiſſoluble Knot of Intereſt. This was done by the Potent Charms of Chequer and Bank Bills, Loans upon Publick Funds and Tallies: So we brought them as it were into the Government, and they were forced to clamour and bawl on our Side, whenever any of us were attacked in Parliament, or otherwiſe; for we took care to tell them, that whatever was ſaid or done againſt us, was deſigned againſt the King; and that the Parliament meant not the puniſhing of us for Miſdemeanors, but that they deſigned the Subverſion of the Government, and Reſtoration of K. *James:* And ſo we branded all that oppoſed us with the infamous Titles of *Jacobites*, Men in a *French* Intereſt, and that had taken *French* Mony. Was not that a pretty Whim enough, when by this means we made the whole Mob of the Kingdom believe, That the beſt Men in the Houſe of Commons had taken Money of Count *Tallard* the *French* Ambaſſador, when God knows, he had diſpoſed of his Money long before that time to the Partitioners, who helped his Maſter to the Kingdom of *Spain?*

Johnſon. Sir, it's a ſtrange thing to me, how thoſe Modern Whigs in the City ſhould relinquiſh their Principles, and turn Enemies to the *Engliſh* Conſtitution, merely for the ſake of eight or ten *per Cent.* for their Money.

Bays. Eight or ten *per Cent.* you talk now according to your Judgment: I'll give you one Inſtance of Trading with the Government. At a certain time the Victualling was much in Debt, and there being no Money in the Office to pay thoſe that dealt with it, many of them were forced to ſell their Office Warrants at 30 *per Cent.* more or leſs loſs: Not long after that came into that Office a great Quantity of Salt Tallies, which, as I re-

 member,

member, had 15 *per Cent.* allow'd to any one that would take them: Many poor Traders could not take them at this rate, and ſo were forced to ſell them. In a ſhort time after this, theſe Tallies were taken in at the Bank at their full value. Now do but make a Calculation of the Profit the Men made by buying theſe Office Warrants.

	l.
By Profit of 70 *l.* in a 100, Warrant bought	30
By Profit in taking out the Tally	15
	45

So that you ſee the 70 *l.* is grown 115 *l.* before it came into the Bank, where it was better than Specie. A certain Brewer at this Juncture by this means got upwards of ten Thouſand Pound, and is now a Member.

Smith. This is a very fine Trade indeed, Mr. *Bays* but pray how was that Office ſerved at that Time? At this rate the Nation paid at leaſt 50 *per Cent.* more than the Market Price; and ſo we have raiſed juſt as much more Money as we needed, if all the Offices in the Kingdom have been managed alike.

Bays. It's no matter for that: By this means we have got a Party to our ſelves, that will be aſſiſtant to us in any thing we do, be it never ſo much againſt the Intereſt of the Kingdom: They ſwear for us, lie for us, backbite and ſlander for us; they'l be *Jews*, *Turks*, *Heathens* or any thing elſe, provided we are ſo too. Look ye Gentlemen, the Cauſe muſt be ſupported, and this cannot be done without Numbers, and Numbers ſufficient muſt be raiſed, coſt what it will, otherwiſe we ſhall be deſtroyed by raskally Impeachments and Attainders

tainders. And I can assure you, Gentlemen, if I and some few more go that way, you'l find a great many more will follow; perhaps there is not one Commission in *England* clear. And would you be willing to see such another hanging Bout as that was in the *West*

Smith. Yes with all my Soul, of such men as you Those in the *West* suffered in a Good Cause, they died like Men in the Service of their Country; but these will die like Dogs for Sheep-stealing and Rapine. No, Mr. *Bays*, if the Nation do you Justice, and send you to make your Exit at *Hyde*-Park corner, I can tell you most of the honest People of *London* and *Westminster* will make a Holiday to wait upon you.

Bays. I don't care one Fart for them all; but by the way I must tell you I don't like dying after any rate; there is none but the Parliament can effect a thing of that Nature, and you see what the last Parliament got by attempting it, they blew up themselves with their own Fire.

Johnson. Indeed Mr. *Bays*, you were the first that ever spirited the People against their own Representatives: No Age, no Chronicle can produce a parallel Instance hereof; and 'tis very strange, that such a People as those of *England* should be let into so fatal an Error, the consequence of which must be the Destruction of their Civil Rights. I can't tell what Fault could be found with that Parliament, unless their being zealous for their own Rights as they were a Parliament, and for the Peoples Rights as they were their Representatives, may be accounted a Crime.

Bays. Do you think it was not a Crime in them to commit the five *Kentishmen* for petitioning?

Smith. For inſulting the Parliament you mean. Suppoſe, Mr. *Bays*, when you were a Regent in the Treaſury, if a body ſhould have petitioned that Board, and directed you in inſolent Terms, how you ſhould manage the Nation's Caſh, and have told you that your Reign was blemiſhed by many Miſmanagements; would you have acquieſced with ſuch a Petition, and granted the Prayer thereof? If a Man ſpeaks reflecting Words againſt a Peer, and is proſecuted and impriſoned for the ſame upon *Scandalum Magnatum*; ſhall the greateſt Authority in *England* want a Power to puniſh Men that fly in the Face of that Authority?

Bays. They have too much Power, and their Wings ought to be clipt, when they fly in the Face of ſuch Men as my ſelf. You ſee what they got by that Job; our Friends in the City improved it to a Miracle, and made it ring all the Kingdom over. This was a good handle for us to take hold on: The other Calumnies we raiſed againſt them the Mob took upon Truſt; and whither cant welead them, when they never examine into the Truth of what we ſay? But this of the 5 Worthies wae ſo apparent, that it made 'em ſwallow down all the Lies we gave 'em before, without ſtraining.

Johnſon. When you cried up the *Kentiſh* Men at that rate, I remember you told us that the County of *Kent* would elect 'em all Members in the next Parliament, and that the Freeholders of the County had petitioned two of 'em to ſtand for Knights of the Shire; but I find neither of 'em elected by the Liſt.

Bays. Prithee, that was ſaid only to amuſe the Mob, to elevate and ſurprize, and all that: for we know at the ſame time they were not Men of that Reputation in their Country, as we pretended; and what did it ſignify to us?

us? we made uſe of them only for our own Intereſt; They were the Make-a-noiſe-*Toms* of that County, brave forward Fellows, and bold in the Cauſe, and they got a good Dinner from the City, and I can't tell what from the Court, for that piece of Knight-Errantry.

Smith. I find, Mr. *Bays*, your Cauſe, as you call it, is chiefly ſupported by Lying and Falſhood: I can aſſure you I have a very mean Opinion of ſuch a Cauſe, and the Partizans of it.

Bays. This Cauſe, Mr. *Smith*, was ever ſupported after this manner; for ours is no new Cauſe, but an old one got into new Hands: Whoever miſled their Prince, betrayed their Country, and rob'd the Nation of its Wealth, had recourſe to the ſame Methods: Did not they lie as well as we? Did they not make Sham Plots, and ſuborn Men to ſwear People out of their Lives? And ſince the Revolution, did *Hamden* in the Treaſury, or the Whigs in other eminent Poſts prefer honeſt Men any more than my ſelf? And as to Parliamentary Enquiries, have not People in all Reigns managed Parliaments for the Intereſt of the Prince and his Miniſters, whoſe Intereſt and Inclinations were always the ſame? Were not Members brib'd in *Charles* 2*d*'s time by Penſions, to ſuch a degree, that when an Account was demanded of the numbers of thoſe mercenary Members, Sir *Stephen* could reckon between 40 and 50 by his Memory? This indeed was a thing ſo abominably exploded in former Reigns, that we durſt not attempt it ſo barefac'd in this; but we had recourſe to a genteeler Method, by giving them Places of Profit and Truſt, ſo that we had 2 or 3 Salary Parliaments one after another.

Smith.

Smith. So by theſe Methods has our Nation been brought into this languiſhing Condition: for you never conſider'd whether the Perſon was qualified for the Office, but whether he was a Member of Parliament. Now if he were a Fool or a Knave, and by that means injur'd the Nation in his Office, he was no way accountable: He could not be called to an account by the Court; he voted for his Place, and they could expect no more of him than to anſwer the Ends for which he was made an Officer. If he were accuſed before Parliament, he was there tried by his own Party; ſo that publick Frauds and Cheats went unpuniſhed, and thoſe that endeavoured to diſcover them were ruined for their Pains. But pray, Mr. *Bays*, how came you to loſe that Intereſt in the Houſe of Commons, and to let the Country Party get the Aſcendant over you?

Bays. To tell you the Truth of the matter, we grew too impudent in the Houſe, and alſo made too bold with the Nation's Caſh. In the Houſe I uſed to talk all, and had the Aſſurance to ſay in my Speeches, that I ſpoke the Senſe of the major part of the Houſe. The Country Party were ſcandaliz'd at this, as if there had been a Fellow-feeling betwixt me and the major part of the Members before-hand. Then our extraordinary Embezlements in Offices were too apparently ſcandalous: Commiſſioners at 500 *l. per Annum* Salary, could live at the rate of 1000 *l. per Ann.* and yet in a very few Years make Purchaſes of 40 or 50 Thouſand Pounds: Clerks at Fourſcore and 60 *l. per Ann.* could purchaſe Eſtates of twenty Thouſand Pounds; nay, our very Footboys and Menials, that we had made Door-keepers and Underlings, could huff Gentlemen, and make Purchaſes. In a word, the whRevenue ſunk, the Funds became

became deficient, the National Debts were unpaid, Poverty reigned every where, and Plenty appear'd no where but at our own Tables, and in our own Houſes. This created grumbling in the Country, and none were pleas'd with our Actions in the City, but the Stock-Jobbers; and in fine, the whole Nation was appriſed of our Miſmanagements, and choſe ſuch a Parliament as would do them Juſtice. Now my Breech began to make Buttons; I dream't of nothing but Impeachments, Attainders, Poll-Axes and Gibbets, and would willingly have compounded, thrown up my Offices, and have gone off with what I had gotten; but there were ſo many private, beſides publick Piques againſt me in the Houſe of Commons, that there was no likelihood of an Accommodation.

Johnſon. Indeed, Mr. *Bays*, I thought you in very indifferent Circumſtances when the Partition Treaty was condemned by both Houſes; I thought you then routed Horſe and Foot, there ſeemed no way for you to eſcape.

Bays. Nor indeed had there been a way, had not our ſtanch Stock-Jobbers in the City and other places ſtood firm to our Intereſt: Theſe exercis'd their Talent of Lying to a Miracle, on our behalf; ſo that you ſaw we turned the Tables upon the Commons, and made the People believe that thoſe very Perſons in the Houſe who proſecuted us with moſt vigour, were the chief Enemies of the Kingdom, and had a deſign to dethrone the King, and reſtore K. *James*. You can't tell what abundance of Mony this Affair coſt us, not a little Libeller againſt the Parliament but had a ſnack of us; light come, light go: But to keep *Jack How* out of *Glocester-ſhire* coſt us the Deviſ and all of Mony; but our Fortunes,

which

which were made by Bribery, muſt be ſupported by the ſame Methods they were acquired.

Johnſon. Well, Mr. *Bays*, I find I have not been miſtaken in my Opinion of the Management of publick Affairs; we have ſenſibly felt the Effects of it. But, Sir, have none of you at the Helm any conſcience how you ſteer the Ship of State? If you ſplit her upon the Rocks, are you not in as much danger of drowning as any of the common Sailors, won't you ſhare in the public Ruin of your Country? And what will all your ill gotten Gain ſignify, if you cannot land it ſafe aſhoar?

Bays. Gentlemen, we are provided for the worſt, no Tempeſts nor Hurricane of Fate, but thoſe Tornados that riſe in St. *Stephen*'s Chappel, can overſet our Navigation: The *Boreas*'s that ſit in that Houſe, if they are unanimous, may blow us to the Devil; but nothing elſe can hurt us. In all other Caſes we are provided with Planks to get ſafe aſhoar: We have got Mony enough under King *William* to make our Peace, if King *James*, King *Lewis*, King *Turk*, King *Devil* ſucceed him. This is our Sheet Anchor, at which we can ride ſecure of all Storms and Tempeſts in all Reigns and Revolutions whatſoever.

Smith. Then, Mr. *Johnſon*, you and I are in a ſhitten Condition; we have been ruined for our Country in the late Reigns, we have been ſtarved for our Country in this Reign, and we may be hang'd for our Country in the next Reign. On my word we have made a fine Kettle of Fiſh on't: No Penny, no *Pater noſter.* We loſt all our Mony formerly, and have got none now; for which very reaſon it ſeems we may be very decently tuck'd up when time ſhall ſerve.

Johnſon.

Johnſon. For this very reaſon, Mr. *Bays*, you ought to give us ſomething conſiderable; for it is a pity, that after all our ſuffering and ſtarving, we ſhould be hanged at laſt.

Bays. Look ye, Gentlemen, I know you both to be ſo damnably ſowr'd againſt the Miniſters, that you'l never be reconcil'd to us: The 13 years we have kept you ſtarving will ſtill ſtick in your Stomachs; and let me tell you, the Mony that is honeſtly gotten by a Salary will never do the buſineſs; and what is worſt of all, you come in at the Fag-end of the Market. The Cheaters won't be able to keep open ſhop long; for I find by the Poſition of the Parliamentary Planets, we are juſt come to a Criſis. And beſides, you don't know the Terms upon which we admit men into Offices: You muſt abjure the Intereſt of your Country, as Witches abjure Jeſus Chriſt, when they contract with the Devil: You muſt deny the Authority of Parliaments, which I know are your Idols: You muſt bely, ſlander, backbite, aſperſe your own Father, if he be againſt the Intereſt of the Court: In a word, you muſt come over without reſerve, you muſt be thoroughly changed, and become new Creatures; and this I know is a difficult thing, conſidering the Inflexibleneſs of your Tempers, whoſe Notions are become natural, and are conſtituent parts of your *Compoſitum:* 'Tis as impoſſible for you to change your Tempers, as it is for you to create your ſelves anew, which if it were in your Power, I believe you would make your ſelves the ſame reſolute and ſtubborn Creatures you now are.

Johnſon. Indeed, Mr. *Bays*, you are in the right on't; we ſhall not now be afraid of hanging, who have come ſo often near the Gallows. We have many years encountred Poverty, the moſt formidable Enemy in the World, and we cannot fear a leſs Enemy. You'l find at all times our Virtue will be a better ſupport to us than your Money will be to you. I can aſſure you I can go to bed at night with a hungry Belly, and yet can ſleep as well as K. *William*, or

any King in *Europe*: My Conſcience is not diſturb'd with black Thoughts of my ill Services to my Country, I am not alarm'd in the ſilent Hours of the Night, with the imagined Sounds of weeping Orphans and Widows who are now ſtarving, whoſe brave Heads of their Families were lop't, to make a Bridg for K. *William* to come to the Imperial Crowns of theſe Kingdoms; I never look behind me adays to ſee if the Ghoſts of murdered Patriots follow me; I have nothing to mourn for, but the diſtreſſed Condition of my Dear and Native Land, and to ſee her in the Hands of bold Invaders like your ſelf. Indeed, Mr. *Bays*, I would not change Conditions with you, could my Circumſtances in the World poſſibly be worſe than they are.

Smith. Mr. *Bays* I ſuppoſe does not believe a Word of what you ſay. For my part, Mr. *Bays*, I am the merrieſt Man in Affliction of any in the World: I know I am baſely and ungratefully dealt with, my Honeſty has brought me very low; but I know that's none of my Fault, but my Virtue. I am rejoiced to ſee a poor meagre Wretch in an Office fretting his Guts to Fiddle-Strings in contriving how to cheat the Nation, and to ſee him miſerable in the midſt of all his Riches. I always laugh when I ſee a debauched Monſter in a Chair, tormented with the Gout or Pox, and not able to ſtand upon his Legs; being allowed that to pamper his Luſt, which ſhould have fed the hungry Bellies of Men of Probity and Honour. When I am minded to divert my ſelf, I go to the Coffee-houſes in the City, where I always meet with a parcel of Mortals drinking of Ninny-Broth, and exerciſing their vicious Talent in lying and railing againſt the Parliament; I could wiſh with all my Soul, that every one of theſe Blockheads had a Saddle at his Back, provided it were not to deſcend to their Poſterity, who could not help their Parents having long Ears nor wearing Packſaddles. No, Mr. *Bays*, I am not left quite comfortleſs, I make a Virtue of Neceſſity; but what rejoices me moſt of all is, That one time or other I ſhall ſee ſome of

you

you topping Sparks brought to Punishment for the Injuries done our Nation; this I am certain of, for Justice tho it comes slow, it comes sure.

Mr. *Bays.* Well Gentlemen, I commend you: like Madmen you please your selves with Fancies. I desire none of your Entertainment, I can't feed upon such thin Diet: I think I shan't starve and pine my self, when I can feed on the Fat of the Land: I shan't eat Bread and Cheese, when I can command Venison out of any of the King's Parks; but I must confess sometimes I am disturbed in my Mind, which makes my stomach a little squeamish, when I reflect upon my Carriage towards better Men than my self; and I can assure you were I to act my Part over again, I would quite alter that Scene.

Johnson. Tho I am a Sufferer by the Revolution, and am never likely to meet with a Reward, yet I should have rejoiced, had it been for the Advantage of my Country.

Bays. Why, Sir, have you not a better King than the former King?

Smith. Yes, Sir, we have; but who helped you to this King? Was it not such Men as Mr. *Johnson* and my self? Ay, say the City-Whigs, we have now a good King; but did they ever yet commend the good People, that brought this good King to the Throne? But if we have got a good King, I think we are not much mended in our Ministry, they are generally the same or worse. Now do you think, Mr. *Bays*, that the *English* Nation will ever again be at the Charge of a Revolution, only to make the Court-Stagers face about as they were? Or do you think that such Men as I must be us'd as Scaffolds to be pull'd down when the House is built?

Johnson. I fancy, Sir, you took in some of those old Courtiers, to teach you the Art and Mystery of Cozenage; for you can never pretend that they could be serviceable to this Government, considering they always were avowed Enemies to those Principles upon which it is founded.

Bays. Gentlemen, you are quite mistaken, it was but

Prudence to make a Miniſtry of the moſt able Stateſmen of both the former Reigns, that the World might be ſatisfied in the Miniſtry of *England*.

Johnſon. During the Reigns of the two former Kings, able Men were neither neceſſary nor deſired; thoſe Kings wanted Tools for Arbitrary Deſigns, mere Jack-hold-my-Staffs that would be the Cyphers of Government, and let the Popiſh Prieſts make the Sum; for able Stateſmen, where were they, or where are they? Had we any in thoſe Reigns capable of writing a Commentary upon the Horn-Book, except *Halifax*, who has left us a few Jingles of his Policy, whoſe Title I think I ſhould have ſcorn'd to have worn, tho his Eſtate had been thrown me in as Paper and Packthred into the Bargain? For the New Ones, I am altogether unacquainted with their Learning or Parts; I know not the Univerſities they were bred at, nor their Knowledg in the Sciences; I judg of their Skill in State-Affairs, by the effect of their Management upon the Publick, by which I make but ſlender Concluſions of their Judgment. And for their Honeſty, with the Blind Man, I wiſh I could ſee it.

Bays. Certainly Gentlemen, you are quite diſtracted: Will neither old nor new Miniſtry pleaſe you? For God's ſake what would you be at? You rail at us all.

Johnſon. No, no; we only reflect upon the bad Men of both Miniſtrys, only upon ſuch who get into the Government, as Spunges do into Liquor, to ſuck it dry. We recriminate on ſuch who have betrayed our Country for two Reigns together, and now put themſelves in the way to clench the Nail in this Reign, which they drove in the t'other; upon thoſe Creatures who preach'd up Paſſive Obedience in *Charles* and *James*'s Reigns, and thoſe who now preach up the Doctrine of a Conqueſt for the ſame End and Purpoſe. If you had not talk'd of Standing Armies and other Inſtruments of Slavery, we had not been awakened to enquire into your evil Deſigns againſt our Liberties; and then rewarding of ſuch Men with Places and

Pre-

Preferments, plainly ſhewed your Love to thoſe Principles, and your Hatred of the oppoſite Party.

Bays. Well Gentlemen, I find the main difference betwixt us is Rewards; and if we had eas'd you in that Affair, I ſuppoſe we might have been eaſy in all the reſt.

Smith. Not ſo neither, we are not to be brib'd: but what can we ſay of a Miniſtry, that neither rewards nor puniſhes; or rather that puniſhes the greateſt Criminals with the Rewards that are due to the greateſt Sufferers?

Bays. The Sufferers are ſo numerous, that we had not wherewithal to gratify them.

Smith. The Criminals were as many, and yet you found ways to gratify them: Would not the *Iriſh* and *Engliſh* Grants have gone a great way towards it? If thoſe Grants had been thus applied, I am of Opinion the Parliament of *England* would never have reſumed them. The very Grant given to Mrs. *Villers* would have rewarded above 100 Sufferers at 200 *l. per Ann.* each, and would thereby have ſecured as many Families in the Intereſt of *England*, which now in all Probability are likely never to be; for few Children will tread in their Fathers Steps to their own Deſtruction, they'l remember what Treatment their Parents met with, and think of the Gratitude of Courts.

Johnſon. And ſuppoſe the *Engliſh* Grants had been beſtowed after the ſame manner, with all the Offices in the Kingdom, how many thouſand Men of Merit would have been rewarded by that means?

Bays. Look ye, Gentlemen, we have ſeen our Error, and will reward ſuch Men for the future, if we can find 'em out.

Smith. I'll put you in a way to do that, one 3*d* part of 'em you may find in the Priſons of the Fleet, the Kings Bench, *&c.* another 3*d* part are Abſconders for fear of getting into a Goal, and t'other 3*d* part are ſubſiſting upon the Charity of thoſe Friends that lent 'em Money in the late Reigns to purchaſe their Pardons, which Money our Gracious Government has not yet enabled 'em to repay.

Bays.

Bays. Truly, Sirs, one great Reaſon of their Non-admittance into Offices, was becauſe they were not capable of Buſineſs, moſt of 'em not being bred to Accounts and Buſineſs: tho they are honeſt Men, yet you know every honeſt Man can't make a Mouſe-Trap.

Johnſon. Nor tell a Story of a Mouſe neither: But I hope they underſtood Accounts as well as *J. P.* and the reſt of the Commiſſioners of Prizes; and why could they not prefer an Honeſt Fool, as well as a Knaviſh one?

Bays. Beſides, they underſtood nothing of Gentility: Do you think a King's Court muſt be crowded with Bumpkins?

Johnſon. Muſt we all be Beaus then, that come to Court? Can't a Man inherit his Majeſties Favour, unleſs he wears a long Periwig? Is Scrape and Cringe Qualifications of a Stateſman? Do you remember what our old *Engliſh* Bard *Withers* ſays of ſuch Fellows?

If I ſhould have been hung, I know not how
To teach my Body how to cringe or bow;
Or to embrace a Fellow's hinder Quarters,
As if I meant to ſteal away his Garters.
If any bow'd to me with Congees trim,
All I could do was ſtand and laugh at him.
Bleſs me, thought I, what will this Coxcomb do,
When I perceiv'd one reaching at my Shoo?

Bays. You can't imagin Gentlemen how awkard a Bumpkin looks at Court, and how much he is deſpiſed by us: The Country Squire that brought up the late Addreſſes, we receiv'd 'em indeed very Graciouſly; but as ſoon as their Backs were turn'd, Lord how we banter'd 'em. Theſe Blockheads ſaid, we are the Fellows that they live by, let 'em get into the Country and work for more Mony, we'l take care to ſpend it for 'em: We had woundy Sport with one Fellow, that brought 3 or 4 Addreſſes out of the *Weſt*; his Noſe was ſet on the wrong way, and every time we had good Diverſion to play with his Noſe before his Face. But mentioning Addreſſes, pray Gentlemen, what do you think of the Addreſſes againſt the Prince of *Wales?* Does not that Turn elevate and ſurprize, and all that?

Smith. Indeed Sir, I was ſurpriz'd to ſee a Body of Men, who hated K. *James*, addreſs a Government in Mourning for him: you looked as if you were in Love with the *Welch* Baſtard, when you paid ſo much reſpect to his Pretended Father.

Bays. Look ye, Sirs, I find you are altogether ignorant in the Methods of Courts, whoſe Gentility obliges us to pay reſpect to all crown'd Heads. If the Czar of *Muſcovy* ſhould die; nay if the Devil

vil himſelf ſhould die, as he is Prince of the Infernal Regions, we are obliged to mourn for him. But, Gentlemen, to lead you into the Whim of Addreſſing, I muſt tell you, that we tri'd all ways poſſible to bring that Buſineſs about before that time. The Addreſs at *Winton* and other Places were to the ſame purpoſe. Rot the Pr. of *Wales* for a Baſtard! The Addreſſes were meant againſt the Parliament, of whom we were more in danger than of the *French* King, and the Pr. of *Wales* both.

Smith. Why the Parliament had ſettl'd the Succeſſion in the Proteſtant Line, and upon a Foreigner too, according to your own Hearts Deſire; the King was pleas'd with what they had done, and we thought they'd have ſat, till the time by Law preſcrib'd for their Diſſolution.

Bays. Whatever you thought, I am ſure had they not gone off as they did, they would have got our Heads off in another Seſſions. And I'll aſſure you we are much beholden to the *French* King, in declaring the Pr. of *Wales*, in the happy Minute, for our Relief.

Smith. Sir, I fancy you and moſt of your Gang, are not ſo much againſt the P. of *Wales* as you pretend; otherwiſe you would have encouraged a Proof of his Illegitimacy and Impoſture. By this you ſeem to keep *Bayard* in the Stable, and are huſh in his Cauſe, that you may be able to ſpeak in your own, if ever God for our Sins ſhould ſuffer him to enjoy the Throne of his Pretended Father. I have read ſeveral of Mr. *Fuller*'s Books on that Subject. Pray, Sir, your Opinion of that Affair.

Bays. You know *Fuller* is a Fellow of no Credit, he was himſelf voted an Impoſtor by Parliament, and upon that Account ſtigmatized by Law in a Court of Juſtice.

Johnſon. 'Tis true, he was ſo voted and ſo ſtigmatiz'd, but that Parliament mght as well have voted him a Dromedary, or a Hobby Horſe, as an Impoſtor; for an Impoſtor is a Perſon that repreſents another Perſon that really he is not; but *Wm. Fuller* is the ſame individual *Wm. Fuller* as he was at the time of his Chriſtening, and never pretended to the Parliament to be otherwiſe. He is beholden to his Jury for his being ſtigmatiz'd, which were a Parcel of Glorious Sparks; I make no queſtion but they would have found him quick with Child, had the Parliament voted him a Woman. But, Mr. *Bays*, was it ever known before, that Members were Evidence at the Bar of what was tranſacted in their Houſe? This was one good way to keep all Complaints from being brought thither.

Smith. I don't remember any one neither, that was proſecuted by Order of the Houſe by the Attorny General, except himſelf, which

which plainly ſhows, that ſome body was willing to make it evident, that there was no Proof of the Illegitimacy of the Pr. of *Wales*.

Bays. Beſides, Gentlemen, you know he has been Guilty of many ill things, as ſeveral Books againſt him demonſtrate, and therefore ought not to have the Encouragement of the Court.

Smith. Suppoſe him Guilty of all that is ſuggeſted, why ſhould that prevent a due Inquiry into the matter?

Johnſon. But beſides, I underſtand he has been very ſerviceable to the Government in divers Reſpects, too many to enumerate; and muſt he loſe the Favour of the Court, becauſe he fell under the Diſpleaſure of the Commons? How came you to alter that Scene? thoſe that fall under the Diſpleaſure of the Houſe now, are not treated after that manner. We can have your Legion Letters, your Stories of *Rome* and *Athens*, and 100 other Libels againſt the Parliament, in order to ſubvert our Conſtitution, publickly ſold and diſperſed without any Secretary of State's Warrant againſt either Authors or Publiſhers. Did you ever read the Poem, called, *the Generous Muſe?* Is not there a fine piece of Stuff in commendation of K. *James*, and the prettieſt Reflections in the World upon the Government, and no notice taken of it; when at the ſame time if a Body happen to make a Ballad reflecting upon a Foreigner, that has run away with more than all the Honeſt Men in *England* have got ſince the Revolution, the Author is brought into Jeopardy by Warrants and Preſentments. This indeed, Sir, is a ſure ſign, that you have not ſo great an Averſion to the P. of *Wales* as your Noiſe about him would make us believe.

Bays. Gentlemen, is it common Prudence for us who have got large Eſtates under K. *William*, to appear too violent againſt one that has the leaſt Pretenſion, tho never ſo unjuſt, to the Throne? would you have us mark our ſelves, that we may be known? No, our Buſineſs is to act ſo cunningly in one Reign, that we may ſet our ſelves in the way of Preferment in the next. But my Watch ſays, 'tis paſt 11 a Clock, and I have made an Aſſignation at 12 with a thing in Petticoats, and muſt leave you; but at our next Meeting ſhall endeavour to bring you over.

Johnſon. Mr. *Bays*, we thank you for this Condeſcenſion, but take this from me till I ſee you next, that you and the reſt of your Gang, as you have been the Ruin of the beſt Men in *England*, ſo are by this means the greateſt Enemies to K. *William* and his Government: and ſo Farewel.

FINIS.